

International Education: Got my tickets, got my bags...where's my passport?

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I. Content:

I want my students to be able to:

- A. Understand the reasons countries require a valid passport for foreign travel by their citizens
- B. Understand the reasons countries require passports from foreign travelers wishing to enter their country
- C. Use a computer to access, analyze and organize helpful information about the passport application process

II. Prerequisites:

In order to fully appreciate this lesson, the student should:

- A. Understand the reasons countries, states, public and private institutions, and certainly schools, require their citizens, employees and students to carry a picture ID

III. Instructional Objectives:

The student will:

- A. Understand the reasons countries issue passports
- B. Investigate the application process they will need to follow in order to obtain a U.S. passport
- C. Identify local county, state and federal institutions that provide passport applications and assistance

IV. Material and Equipment:

Teacher: A school district issued employee picture ID badge or drivers license.
A valid U.S. passport (if the teacher doesn't have one, possibly a colleague or a student could provide one)

Access to the school computer lab

Applying for a U. S. Passport – **Teacher Handout #1**

Student: A school issued picture ID card

Access to the school computer lab

Applying for a U. S. Passport – **Teacher Handout #1**

V. Instructional Procedure:

- A. Ask your students, "Name a reason each of you is issued a school ID card?"
Answers will vary.
- B. Lead the students to understanding that it allows school administrators, teachers, staff and security personal to find out: Who are you, are you enrolled in our school and do you have permission to be here? Ask your students, "Why do school districts now require their employees (teachers, staff members, custodians,

- bus drivers, etc.) to wear a picture ID badge?” Answers will again vary but students need to understand that it is a way for school administrators, teachers, staff, students, parents and security personal to find out the same information about adults on campus: Who are you and do you have permission to be here?
- C. Lead the students to understand that a passport is an internationally recognized travel document that verifies the identity and nationality of a traveler. Passports are required by most of the world’s countries to answer the basic questions: Who are you, what country are you a citizen of and do you have permission to be here?
- D. Ask students if any of them have a valid passport. If so, ask these students:
1. Which foreign countries they have traveled to that required them to present a current passport in order to enter that country.
 2. Ask these students to share with the class what they remember about showing their passports to the custom agents when entering and leaving foreign countries and when leaving and reentering the United States. What questions were they asked by the agents in the foreign countries they visited? What questions by the U.S. agents when they left and upon returning to the United States?
 3. When traveling within a foreign country, were they ever asked to show their passport for identification purposes other than when they were entering and leaving the country?
- E. In the computer lab, the students will visit the web site of the U.S. State Department.
1. Student to open: <http://www.travel.state.gov/>
 2. Using the **Teacher Handout #1**, How to Apply for a U.S. Passport, the student will:
 - a. Follow the step-by-step procedure to open the pages of this web site.
 - b. Locate the information requested
 - c. Complete the worksheet

VI. Assessment/Evaluation:

Upon completion of this lesson, the students should be able to answer:

- Why do nations require passports for their citizens and foreign visitors?
- What is the application process and where can I get an application?

VII. Follow-up Activities

Students create their own passports for use in school.

1. Using construction paper, cut pieces approximately 8.5” x 5.5”
2. Fold in half.
3. The student prints the name of his/her school as well as draws the school mascot on the front cover.
4. The student needs to paste a small picture of him/herself on the page behind the front cover.
5. The student needs to sign his/her name underneath the picture.
6. Students must show passports at the door of the classroom for the teacher to verify that they indeed have permission to enter the room for this particular class period.

7. The teacher initials each student's passport, thereby granting the student permission to enter the classroom.
8. The social studies teacher may find two or three other teachers within the school that they could also work with in creating one particular day where the student-created passport is required for admittance to class.

Website Search: Applying for a U. S. Passport

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

1. Open: <http://www.travel.state.gov/>
2. Open: Passports for U.S. Citizens
3. Read the information provided under the heading of Passports and answer these questions:
 - a. A passport is an internationally _____. A valid U.S. Passport is required _____. Only the _____ has the authority to _____.
 - b. True or False: To obtain a passport for the first time you need to go in person to one of the 7,000 passport acceptance facilities in the U.S.
_____ T _____ F
 - c. How many photographs of yourself do you need to bring? _____
 - d. What two other documents will you need: _____.
4. Scroll down the page and click on: How to get a passport
5. From First Time menu, open: How to Apply & Documentation
6. Scroll down to #2: Present Proof of U.S. Citizenship
7. You will need to provide a certified _____ issued by a city, county or state.
8. Scroll down to # 5: Pay the Application Fee
9. Open: Click here to see passport fees.
10. If you are 16 years or older, what is the total fee for your passport: \$_____.
11. If you are under 16 years old, what is the total fee: \$_____.
12. Scroll down and open: At our over than 7,000 Passport Acceptance Facilities.
13. Click on: Where to Apply for a Passport Nationwide.
14. Enter your ZIP Code and click on Search.

Teacher Handout 1

15. What are the three closest facilities to you? _____
